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14 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Senator John Stennis

Senator Stennis telephoned a few minutes ago referring to our conversation a day or so ago. He asked if this matter had been settled and I stated it had not. The Senator stated he felt a keen obligation to attempt to check with all sources of information on Cuba and while he did not know what he could get from James Donovan, he thought the effort should be made. He inquired if we would have any objection if he sent his Staff Director and Chief Counsel, James Kendall, to New York to meet with Donovan quietly in Donovan's office. In this way, Stennis stated he would be in a position to advise his Subcommittee that he had checked with all sources possible. (Stennis had related previously that the suggestion of an interview with Donovan had come from one of the other members of the Subcommittee.) Stennis said he was fully conscious of the importance of the overall matter and certainly didn't wish to disturb it in any way but on the other hand he didn't see how a quiet meeting of this type would cause any problem. I stated I would like to check this most carefully and promised to be in touch with him tomorrow on this. Stennis indicated they had no specific topics they wish to develop with Donovan. Considering all of the circumstances, particularly Stennis in effect re clamoring on this, I would recommend that we go along with this procedure.

cc: Mr. Knoche
OGC/LC - Subject (Stennis File)
Sen. Preparedness File
OGC/LC - Chrono.

s/ John S. Warner
JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

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